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LETTER DATED 17 JUNE 1996 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I again have the honour to refer to resolution 1021 (1995), which was adopted by the Security Council on 22 November 1995 concerning the embargo on deliveries of weapons and military equipment imposed by resolution 713 (1991).

With my letter of 13 June 1996 (S/1996/433), I conveyed to you a communication dated 11 June 1996 which I had received from the Representative of the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and which described progress achieved in implementing article II of annex 1-B of the Dayton Agreement. In that letter I undertook to convey to the Security Council any further relevant information that would be received from the Chairman-in-Office of OSCE.

I now have the honour to forward the attached letter dated 14 June 1996 and a further letter and enclosure dated 17 June 1996 which I have received from the Representative of the Chairman-in-Office of OSCE.

I should be grateful if you could bring these documents to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Boutros BOUTROS-GHALI

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Annex I

[Original: French]

Letter dated 14 June 1996 from the Representative of the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that, according to our delegation to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, an agreement on the limitation of armaments in keeping with article IV of annex 1-B to the Dayton Agreement has been reached today at Florence, Italy.

This new agreement is to be signed on Monday at Oslo and will enter into force immediately thereafter.

The Chairman-in-Office is expecting the early submission of a report from Norwegian Ambassador Eide, which will then be transmitted to the Secretariat.

(Signed) Johannes J. MANZ
Ambassador
Representative of the
Chairman-in-Office

Annex II

[Original: French]

Letter dated 17 June 1996 from the Representative of the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe addressed to the Secretary-General

With reference to my letter of 14 June I have the honour to draw your attention to the report drafted by Norwegian Ambassador V. Eide on the agreement on the limitation of armaments pursuant to article IV of annex 1-B to the Dayton Agreement concluded on 14 June at Florence, Italy.

(Signed) Johannes J. MANZ
Ambassador
Representative of the
Chairman-in-Office

Enclosure

Progress report on the implementation of article IV of annex 1-B of the Dayton Accord

TO: Ambassador von Tscharner

FROM: Ambassador Vig. Fide

SUBJECT: Status of Article IV Negotiations

The Parties to the Article IV Negotiations, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republika Srpska, on 14 June signed an Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control at the Ministerial meeting of the Peace Implementation Council in Florence. The Parties used the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (the CFE Treaty) as a starting point, which can be seen in many of the provisions of the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control.

As called for in the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina (the "Dayton Agreement"), the Parties agreed to set limits on five categories of armaments -- battle tanks, armored combat vehicles, artillery from 75 mm caliber and above, combat aircraft and attack helicopters. These limits, based generally on the formula identified in the Dayton Agreement, limit the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to approximately 75% of its current holdings while Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina are each limited to approximately 30% of the current Yugoslav holdings. (Of the latter, the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina will have limits of 2/3 the total in each category of armaments, with the Republika Srpska's limits being the remaining 1/3 of the total.)

The Parties agreed to an extensive information exchange and intrusive on-site inspection regime to verify compliance with the Agreement. The Parties will exchange information on their holdings of armaments limited by the Agreement on 21 June, with information effective as of 1 July 1996 the start of a four-month baseline validation period.

As with the CFE Treaty, the Agreement contains specific provisions addressing the methods to be used to reduce armaments. The Agreement specifies a 12-month reduction period, and further identifies two reduction phases. At the end of the first phase, 1 January 1997, those Parties with reduction liabilities must have reduced at least 40% of their reduction liability for combat aircraft, attack helicopters and artillery, and 20% of their reduction liability for battle tanks and armoured combat vehicles.

Another significant aspect of the Agreement is that it establishes the Sub-Regional Consultative Commission to act as an implementation review body. Chairmanship of the Sub-Regional Consultative Commission will rotate among the Parties, however the Parties have agreed that the Personal Representative of the Chairman in Office of the OSCE will chair meetings of the Sub-Regional Commission during 1996.

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The Agreement entered into force upon signature on 14 June, so the Parties have already begun organizational steps required for implementation. The first concrete demonstration of implementation will be 21 June, at the first meeting of the Sub-Regional Consultative Commission, during which the Parties will exchange information on their holdings of armaments limited by the Agreement. On 21 June, the Sub-Regional Consultative Commission will also review the initial implementation schedule, to ensure the Parties have no questions concerning required activities.

In addition, the OSCE participating States have been asked to identify personnel who might be able to assist the Parties in execution of the inspection regime. Under the terms of the Agreement, and with the concurrence of the Parties, up to three assistants may be designated to accompany inspection and escort teams during the conduct of these inspections. The Personal Representative will compile the list of names provided by OSCE States and submit it to the Parties for their use.